

Charlestown District

**NATIONAL
PARK
SERVICE**

Junior Ranger Activity Book



Boston National Historical Park

Experience Your America

Tips for Parents

Hot Tip

DO NOT BRING YOUR CAR INTO TOWN.

Even the locals have difficulty navigating the streets of Boston and parking is **EXPENSIVE**. Instead, use the public transit system "The T."

Within the city, the cost is up to \$1.50 for adults.

WALKING THE FREEDOM TRAIL

with small children can be a challenge. If you have the time, you may wish to visit a section of the trail, instead of the entire 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles. We have divided the booklet to include 2 sections of less than one mile each. This booklet covers the Charlestown section.

Allow yourself a full day for the whole trail or a half day for each section. There are lots of things to see. Make sure everyone is wearing appropriate footwear and clothing for the trail and the season.

If you've walked the trail and are looking for an easy way to get back to the starting point, take public transportation, including bus, subway and commuter boat. Ask

the rangers at the visitor centers for the best way to get to your destination.

FREE PUBLIC RESTROOMS can be found at our Visitor Center, near *USS Constitution* and the Bunker Hill Monument.

SITES, HOURS and SEASONS: As a general rule, sites along the Freedom Trail are open year round. Most sites are open 9am - 5pm, with shortened hour in the winter.



TOURS OFFERED: *USS Constitution* is open Tuesday through Sunday in Spring, Summer and Fall. It's open Thursday through Sunday in the Winter. *USS Cassin Young* is generally open 10am-4pm daily. Please note that the

ship may close during inclement weather. Boston National Historical Park is open seven days a week, year round with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day.

For further information call
(617) 242-5642 or
(617) 242-5601.

Hot Tip

FOOD is available in a number of cafes and restaurants. Menus can be found at the Visitor Center.



Junior Ranger

Boston National Historical Park

Hello!



My name is Gilda. That's right; I'm a grasshopper - but not just any grasshopper. I am first cousin to Gus, the famous grasshopper on top of Faneuil Hall! Faneuil Hall is one of the special places on Boston's Freedom Trail.

The people who help take care of these places are called park rangers. You can help take care of these special places too, by learning why they are special. This booklet will give you fun ways to learn about these places. I will help you along the way. I'll give you fun clues and special tips. Once you've learned, you will be a junior ranger.

Maybe you've visited other National Parks. Some are really big and have lots of animals. Some are very small, but are special because something important happened there. Boston is one of those parks, with many sites where historic events took place. These sites are on the Freedom Trail. Most of these are where important things happened to start our American Revolution.

The national park in Boston is called Boston National Historical Park. The park rangers at the park help to take care of many of the sites on the Freedom Trail: Old South Meeting House; Old State House, Faneuil Hall, Paul Revere House, Old North Church, Bunker Hill Monument and part of the Charlestown Navy Yard.

The Freedom Trail may seem very long because you will be seeing and learning lots of things. The whole trail is only $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles long. Our special places are in two different spots. Many of these places are in downtown Boston and the others are in Charlestown, across the river.

2.5 miles
= 4 kilometers



When you look at your booklet, you will see different places the rangers help to take care of. They are divided so you can do either downtown Boston or Charlestown to become a junior ranger. If you do both, you will get a bonus!

Boston National Historical Park would like to thank volunteer Brooke Murray for her contribution to this Junior Ranger program.

To become a junior ranger, you need to do the following things:

In downtown Boston or Charlestown, you must do one special program with a ranger. In Charlestown, these programs include USS CASSIN YOUNG Tours or a talk at Bunker Hill. In downtown Boston, the programs are Freedom Trail Tours or a talk at Faneuil Hall. To prove you participated in a program, have the ranger sign the next page!

Next, look at the pages of your booklet. There are one or two pages for each historic site. Each page has questions for you to answer and a puzzle or a game. You will also see something from a page of an old newspaper that tells a thing or two about the place and what happened there. Stamp your booklet at each spot along the Trail!

After you have done the ranger program and finished all the pages, take your booklet to a ranger at one of the Visitor Centers (15 State Street /downtown or Charlestown Navy Yard/Charlestown) The ranger will check your booklet to make sure you've finished and give you an official junior ranger badge/patch.

C O N G R A T U L A T I O N S ! ! !

Junior Ranger

Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown District Freedom Trail Facts

Distance: 1 mile

Time to Walk: 2-3 hours

Sites to see: Charlestown Navy Yard
USS Constitution Museum
USS Constitution
USS Cassin Young
Bunker Hill Monument



Junior Ranger
Activities:

USS Cassin Young tour
Bunker Hill Talk
Booklet Activities

Ranger

Signature

Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

History

Charlestown



Charlestown was founded by English colonists in 1628, two years before Boston was! The town became known for its fine harbor location, so important for travel in the days before cars and trucks were invented. In fact, in 1677, James Russell built a dry dock near today's Navy Yard, the first dry dock in the United States. As ships were so important back then, Charlestown also became a place for shipbuilders and other craftsmen.

Charlestown became the number one port in the colonies. The town manufactured (made) rum, sugar loaves, candles, leather and exported fur, lumber, pottery, and building frames.

On the night of April 18, 1775, Paul Revere was rowed from the North End of Boston to Charlestown. He then borrowed a horse and began his famous ride to Lexington, MA, to warn John Hancock and Samuel Adams that they were in danger of being arrested, and that the redcoats were on their way.

In June, 1775, the hills of Charlestown became the site of the first battle of the American Revolution, Bunker Hill, and the town itself was burned by the British army just before the first attack of the battle. The town was rebuilt, and by 1785, thirteen wharves were added to Charlestown's harbor. Look for some of Charlestown's fine architecture from the late 1700s and early 1800s in the Main Street area.

Just fifteen years later, in 1800, the Charlestown Navy Yard opened, becoming one of the country's first navy shipyards. The Navy Yard built, fixed and improved Navy ships, and made rope and anchor chain for 174 years.

The year 1803 brought the Middlesex Canal to Charlestown. At that time, engineers were looking for ways to transport (move) materials around from place to place more quickly than by sea. Their answer was the canal. By putting boats on the water, and using towpaths to pull the boats along, they could move goods and people more quickly. This canal ran just over 27 miles, from Lowell to Charlestown.

In 1806, in the days before refrigerators, Frederick Tudor sent a cargo of ice to the West Indies island of Martinique. This "cool" idea caught on quickly. By 1886, Tudor's company was making over 25 MILLION tons per year!! Look for a plaque on the history of Tudor Wharf between the Visitor Center and Gate 1. The actual Tudor Wharf is where the Marriott Residence Inn is located.

Candy lovers will be happy to know that Schrafft's built the country's largest candy factory in 1928 in Charlestown (just north of the Bunker Hill Monument), where 1,500 employees worked, making boxed chocolates!

We are glad you're here today to visit, and we hope you have fun!

Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

Charlestown Navy Yard

Welcome to the Charlestown Navy Yard! This is one of the country's oldest navy yards. It opened in 1800, when the country wasn't even twenty years old yet! Our young country needed to defend itself on the seas, and needed ships to do that. That's why this navy yard was created to build, repair, and maintain the ships for the United States Navy. The Charlestown Navy Yard did this for 174 years, until 1974!! After the Navy Yard closed, the National Park Service asked to keep a small part of the yard to remember the men and women who worked here to help keep our navy strong.

Think About it...

In what way are Navy Yards important today?



Activity

Here is the USS Goff being built in 1930 in Dry Dock #1. Look at the buildings in the photo and **CIRCLE** the buildings that still exist today.

Fun Fact

Dry dock #1 is the second oldest dry docks of its type in the country.

Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

Charlestown Navy Yard

Find the main flagpole on Pier 1 in the Charlestown Navy Yard. In this area you will find several interesting waysides, or metal signs that talk about the

history and the people of the Charlestown Navy Yard. As you read them, notice how many different people lived and worked together at the Navy Yard.

Find the long, white lower main mast of the USS Constitution. It's next to the USS Constitution Museum. Find the sign "Serving the Fleet", just in front of the mast. This navy yard once made wooden ships. By 1940, it was building only steel ships.

Why do you think they made only steel ships? _____

Can you name some of the jobs that workers did here? _____

Look on the left hand side of the USS Constitution Museum.

Find the sign "Working in the Yard." World War II (the 1940s) was the busiest period ever in the history of the Navy Yard.

How many full-time employees worked here round the clock? _____

When men went off to fight in World War II, what groups of people began to work in the navy yard? _____

What kinds of jobs did they do? _____

As you can see, the people living in the Navy Yard worked together as a team to create large, powerful navy ships, like the U.S.S. Constitution. Each member of the team played an important role.

Are you part of a group that is a team? (Examples: a sports team, a classroom team, a theatre group) What role do you play on this team? In other words, how do you help your team?

Stamp



Here

At Navy Yard Visitor Center

Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

U.S.S. Constitution Museum

Welcome to the USS Constitution Museum! This wonderful museum has exhibits about the U.S.S. Constitution and fun things to do and see! *Be sure to visit the second floor of the Museum where you can imagine what it was like to live onboard Old Ironsides. You can hoist a sail, take the wheel, fire a cannon or swing in a sailor's hammock!*

Enter the lobby, and go straight ahead into the Charles F. Adams Gallery. Find the timeline exhibit on the first floor entitled, "200 Years of Service."

The USS Constitution, or "Old Ironsides," is over 200 years old. As you can imagine, the ship has had to be repaired many times over the course of her history to make sure that she can still stay afloat. By 1925, "Old Ironsides" was going to fall apart, yet the work was going to cost a lot of money.

Thousands of school children came to her rescue. They saved Old Ironsides! These children gave their own money to make sure that she could be fixed and enjoyed by many people, people like you and your family.

Find the section on 1925:

How much money did the children raise?

Can you think of something that you would be willing to pay money to save if it was falling apart?

But now the fame and future of "Old Ironsides" has at last been made secure. Second to no other group, the school-children of America have made possible this patriotic ambition of the last half-century. Four million, five hundred thousand of them have answered the call for funds, and today "Old Ironsides," rescued from rust and rot, rests comfortably in dry-dock. She waits now the time when the balance of the funds will restore her ancient glory.

Question

Here is a copy of an actual newspaper article from 1927. How many school children helped to pay for the ship's repair?

Now look for the section on 1931-1934:

After "Old Ironsides" was fixed, she made a trip to many cities to thank the children for their help. Look at the list of cities she visited. Did she stop at a port near where you live? Which port? _____

Stamp

Here



Junior Ranger

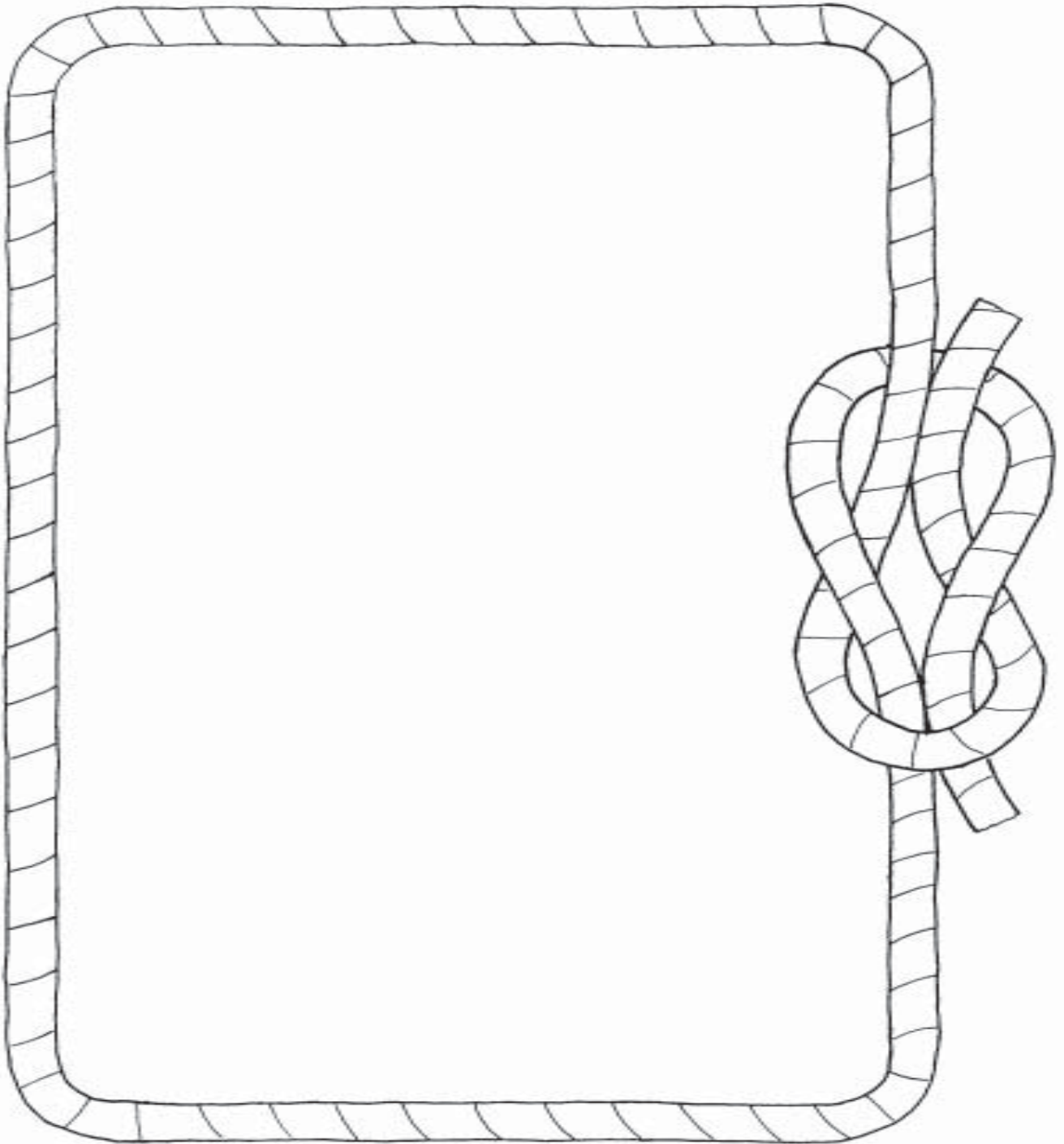
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

Activity

U.S.S. Constitution

The USS Constitution is a strong ship. It's made of live oak and white oak. The people who made Old Ironsides wanted to be sure that the ship would be able to stay afloat in battle and during powerful storms at sea. If you were making a ship, what would it look like? Would it look like "Old Ironsides," or would it look different? What would it be made of? Below draw a picture of what your ship would look like.



Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

U.S.S. Cassin Young

Welcome aboard the the U.S.S. Cassin Young! This navy destroyer was built in 1943 in California. Although this ship wasn't built here, fourteen ships just like this one were built in this navy yard. Young men from around the country served aboard it during World War II and during the Korean War. It was worked on in the 1950s here in the Charlestown Navy Yard by many of its skilled workers. Then the navy stopped using it in storage. In the 1970s, the Navy felt they didn't need it anymore. They were going to scrap it (break it up for recycling) until the National Park Service asked them to bring it to Charlestown. It was brought here in 1979, restored by volunteers, some of them original sailors of the ship. In 1981 it opened to the public, and the National Park Service is proud to have this historic vessel here.

Tic-Tac-Toe

Find three of these items, and connect them with a straight line.

Stamp



Here

Note: please be careful while aboard the ship. It's easy to trip on the deck.
Parents: please stay with your children at all times.

45-minute guided tours are available in addition to the main deck visit. Check with the ranger for tour times and height restrictions.

Junior Ranger
Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

History

Bunker Hill Monument

June 17, 1775 is a day that changed the course of history. On that hot, sunny day, the Battle of Bunker Hill took place in Charlestown, MA, on this very hill. Inexperienced colonists, men and boys, young and old, black, white, Native American, rich and poor from three colonies would band together to fight the well-trained and disciplined British army.

Why would these British colonists travel from many miles away to come to Charlestown and be willing to fight and perhaps die? And why would the British government choose to attack these rebels behind their fortifications at the top of Charlestown's hills?

For the British army, the colonists' very act of building a fort on this hill was a daring one, and this kind of rebellious behavior had to be stopped. For the colonists' part (or patriots, or rebels, depending on your point of view), their rights as British citizens had been taken away, and they were willing to sacrifice everything for those rights.

Activity

Visit the Colonists exhibit. (the smaller diorama with British and American Soldiers).

Take a moment to look at the American colonists. Describe what they look like. How are they dressed?

Now look at the British soldiers. Describe what they look like. How are they dressed?

Did you notice that one group has uniforms and the other does not? Why?

Did You Know?

The Bunker Hill Monument is only ONE FOOT taller than the main mast of the USS Constitution?



Stamp

Here



Junior Ranger

Boston National Historical Park

Charlestown

Bunker Hill Monument One Hero

as farmers, lawyers, shopowners, and sailors. Of the 3000 or so colonists who fought at Bunker Hill, at least 100 were African American or Native American. One particular man, Salem Poor of Andover, MA, fought so well and so bravely that a few months after the battle, fourteen officers who were at the Battle of Bunker Hill signed a petition to the Massachusetts General Court. This paper states that Poor was a "brave and gallant soldier" and that he "behaved like an experienced officer." This paper does not tell us, though, that Salem Poor was a black man and a former slave (he had bought his freedom). We know of no other petition like this one, in which a regular soldier is honored in this way by so many officers.

Do YOU know any heroes? Do you know of people who have helped save lives?

A portion of the Salem Poor Petition.
Courtesy of the Massachusetts Archives

Did you know?

This battle was the last time that African-Americans were welcomed to fight alongside their white neighbors until the Korean War in the 1950s.

Detail from the petition. "Wee Would Only begg leave to Say in the Person of this sd Negro Centers a Brave and gallant Soldier."

This certifies that



*has successfully completed
the requirement to be inducted
into the ranks of
Junior Park Ranger*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. J. [unclear]". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Date

*Park Ranger
Boston National Historical Park*